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written after her decision to marry and go as a missionary

My dear dear Mother,

How should I love to throw aside my pen, and fly to your arms and once more converse with you face to face— Never my dear Mother did I love you so well— or feel that— I had greater cause to bless God for this greatest of earthly blessings which he could confer upon me— How countless have been the teachings of providence with my Mother— surely the Lord has spoken once twice and thrice— and oh what cause for praise and adoration that he has given us ears to hear and hearts to obey! Surely we will together bless his name— and speak about of his goodness and mercy— — Dear dear Mother do you deem it a trial? had we committed a capital crime— given ourselves up to the indulgence of sin— and were sentenced one after the other to spend our lives in a prison or to end them on the gallows in infamy and disgrace— then my dear Mother would have had a trial indeed and we should have brought down her grey hairs with sorrow to the grave— or had it been inclined to spend our lives at home but were addicted to vice and intemperance then we should have broken our mothers heart and she would have been swallowed up in grief — But God hath not thus dealt with my dear Mother— He has given her children and has adopted them into his family as we humbly hope— and is now about giving her the privilege of manifesting her gratitude by giving them back to him— and giving them the honour and privilege of helping his Son to gain his inheritance! of being coworkers with him— Of helping to bring the world to himself! Oh my dear Mother can you ask for more? are you not a happy mother? another thought has just come to my mind— Should the Lord accompany us and bless our endeavours— and make us instrumental of saving Souls would not our mother be in a peculiar manner the primary instrument? The Lord will support you my dear Mother— the dear Saviour will put underneath you his own arms—

he will be your stay and your staff in old age— Yes, yes the dear Saviour will be the prop of my mother's declining years, and his

removes to her dear sons and daughters— our arms would be always

much to shield his from dangers and trials— but he can keep

her secure all and, he can lead her in green pastures and by

the side of still waters— he can carry her in his bosom— and

suffer no evil to come near her dwelling— Are you not many

times made to say both of the precious promises, and rest

all upon them? Oh how precious, how ever bestable! how

substantial— they will never fail for God has said it; —

Since I have been separated from my home— and before, I have

felt that it would be a great blessing— and one of the greatest

sources of earthly happiness I could enjoy to be permitted to cheer

my mother in the downhill of life, and be her earthly prop in

her declining years— But "It is in the heart of man to devise his

way but the Lord directeth his steps" The Lord calls and I cheer-

fully will obey— with his grace assisting me & my dear fathers motto

shall be mine— I will bind it about my neck and write it upon

on my heart— Since I received your approbation and consent

I have felt that I could not ask my heavenly Father to shield

more tenderly than he does now— "I have seen his hand, and

heard his voice" and by his grace he enables me to say "Behold

the hand maid of the Lord, be it unto me even as thou wilt"

Let me say my dear mother and sister I believe your prayers for me

are now heard in heaven, and grace has been bestowed upon

me in answer to them— — I have passed through the severest

trial, and struggle since I last wrote, that I ever experienced —

but the Lord has sustained me— he has comforted me— and helped

me to bless him for every pang— today drove me to the dear Saviour

I cast my burden at his feet and ventured my all upon him— and

it has led me to feel a more childlike confidence— and more strong-

ly than ever that if we will put our trust unto the Lord

he will direct our steps— Oh! consciousness that I have chosen

this & is the path selected for me by my heavenly Father brings

joy to my spirits, and enables me to please with expectation that

she will qualify me for my station— — I need much more grace,

more of the spirit of my dear Saviour— and to feel more my own

weakness, and dependence upon him— my dear friends will

continue to pray for me to this end. — —

I am now with cousin in Swansea have spent four weeks with

them— If the Lord will I shall leave them next week for Roch-

ester to prosecute myself for an infant school— shall probably

spend about 4 weeks there— — — on many accounts I left

the Bow house with regret— I never felt darker interest for any

people— than those— Miss Minerva Walker has taken my place— I

hope it is the beginning of better days with them— and that

those dear children will never again be left with out a teacher —

I have heard since I left that there has been one conversion among the

children— — I feel at times dear one and Julia and the dear home

circle— that if I had the wings of a dove, I should soon be in your

bosoms— and I trust that not many weeks will pass before I shall

find myself there— My dear Julia your will not feel it your

duty to leave that dear mother in the spring— shall we not

spend the time removing mother together? it is useless for me to

say I ardently desire you all my dear friends, and express my desire to see

you— you already know it— You expect me to say something

respecting Mr. Johnson— I saw him the first of this month

let what you already known of him suffice for the present.

the does — knows where he shall be stationed— but expects

to be situated on or near the island of Jamaica— I have

not a word to say in regard to it— I will remember my

dear father's motto— Mr. J's heart seems warmly engaged

in the cause of his dear Master— — —

you will excuse the hasty and abruptness with which I

have written— I did not receive your letter till yesterday—

that is been faithfully forwarded I should have received it at

the time in which I felt so particularly needed it— but feeling

unwilling to make you want one unnecessary moment for me

I have frequent

communications I have scribbled as fast as possible— — —

Mr. Breed has been a brother to me— a

heart from dear brother B. has been a

hurt to visit him before I leave for the west— I send a let

to the from Sister Mary at the time I did this yours, they

were all well— I shall meet them to see her once more

this side eternity— if it seems consistent I shall stay to visit

it her— — I shall scarcely know how to write till I see you

without receiving one more from you— should you write

very soon after the receipt of this— one would find me in R.

probably— otherwise I should not— let known where to direct to

— — I have much more to say but no time —

Yours with increased affection Maria

Warsaw N.Y. Paid 18¾
Feb 22

Mrs. Mary P. Fisher
Rupert
Bennington Co.
Vt.